

## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1-7. (Withdrawn)

8. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a test compound as a candidate for an antibiotic, comprising:

- a) contacting L-histidinol phosphate and H<sub>2</sub>O with a histidinol-phosphatase;
- b) contacting L-histidinol phosphate and H<sub>2</sub>O with histidinol-phosphatase and a said test compound; and
- c) determining the change in concentration between steps (a) and (b) for at least one of the following: L-histidinol phosphate, H<sub>2</sub>O, L-histidinol, and/or orthophosphate;  
and
- d) identifying whether said test compound is a candidate for an antibiotic,  
wherein a change in concentration between steps (a) and (b) for any of the above substances indicates that said test compound is a candidate for an antibiotic.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said histidinol-phosphatase is a fungal histidinol-phosphatase.

10. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said histidinol-phosphatase is a *Magnaporthe* histidinol-phosphatase.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8, wherein said histidinol-phosphatase is SEQ ID NO: 3.

12. (Original) A method for determining whether the antibiotic candidate of claim 8 has antifungal activity, further comprising:

contacting a fungus or fungal cells with said antibiotic candidate and detecting a decrease in growth, viability, or pathogenicity of said fungus or fungal cells.

13. (Currently Amended) A method for identifying a test compound as a candidate for an antibiotic, comprising:

- a) contacting L-histidinol and orthophosphate with a histidinol-phosphatase;
- b) contacting L-histidinol and orthophosphate with a histidinol-phosphatase and a said test compound; and
- c) determining the change in concentration between steps (a) and (b) for at least one of the following: L-histidinol phosphate, H<sub>2</sub>O, L-histidinol, and/or orthophosphate,

wherein a change in concentration between steps (a) and (b) for any of the above substances indicates that said test compound is a candidate for an antibiotic.

14. **(Original)** The method of claim 13, wherein said histidinol-phosphatase is a fungal histidinol-phosphatase.

15. **(Original)** The method of claim 13, wherein said histidinol-phosphatase is a *Magnaporthe* histidinol-phosphatase.

16. **(Original)** The method of claim 13, wherein said histidinol-phosphatase is SEQ ID NO: 3.

17. **(Original)** A method for determining whether the antibiotic candidate of claim 13 has antifungal activity, further comprising:

contacting a fungus or fungal cells with said antibiotic candidate and detecting a decrease in growth, viability, or pathogenicity of said fungus or fungal cells.

18. **(Currently Amended)** A method for identifying a test compound as a candidate for an antibiotic, comprising:

a) contacting L-histidinol phosphate and H<sub>2</sub>O with a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of: a polypeptide having at least 50% sequence identity with histidinol-phosphatase; a polypeptide having at least 50% sequence identity with a histidinol-phosphatase and having at least 10% of the activity thereof; and a polypeptide comprising at least 100 consecutive amino acids of a histidinol-phosphatase;

b) contacting L-histidinol phosphate and H<sub>2</sub>O with said polypeptide and ~~a~~-said test compound; ~~and~~

c) determining the change in concentration between steps (a) and (b) for at least one of the following: L-histidinol phosphate, H<sub>2</sub>O, L-histidinol, and/or orthophosphate; and

d) identifying whether said test compound is a candidate for an antibiotic,

wherein a change in concentration for any of the above substances between steps (a) and (b) indicates that said test compound is a candidate for an antibiotic.

19. **(Currently Amended)** A method for identifying a test compound as a candidate for an antibiotic, comprising:

- a) contacting L-histidinol and orthophosphate with a polypeptide selected from the group consisting of: a polypeptide having at least 50% sequence identity with a histidinol-phosphatase; a polypeptide having at least 50% sequence identity with a histidinol-phosphatase and at least 10% of the activity thereof; and a polypeptide comprising at least 100 consecutive amino acids of a histidinol-phosphatase;
  - b) contacting L-histidinol and orthophosphate, with said polypeptide and ~~a~~said test compound; and
  - c) determining the change in concentration for at least one of the following: L-histidinol phosphate, H<sub>2</sub>O, L-histidinol, and/or orthophosphate,
- wherein a change in concentration for any of the above substances between steps (a) and (b) indicates that said test compound is a candidate for an antibiotic.
- 20-49. (Withdrawn)